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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
KEVIN K. FUNK)
Serial No. 09/643,389) Group Art Unit 2125
Filed: August 22, 2000) Examiner M. Von Buhr
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD) Atty Dkt: 10970997-3
FOR MANUFACTURING)
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT)
DEVICES)

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

DECLARATION OF KEVIN K. FUNK UNDER 37 CFR §1.131

I, Kevin K. Funk, hereby declare that:

- 1) I am the inventor of the invention claimed in the above-identified patent application.
- 2) Prior to January 22, 1997, I conceived the idea of a manufacturing system for manufacturing integrated circuit devices as claimed in the above-identified patent application.
- 3) A copy of two drawings relating to the invention claimed in the above-identified patent application are attached hereto as Exhibits A and B. The Exhibit A drawing generally corresponds to Fig. 3 in the above-referenced patent application, while the Exhibit B drawing generally corresponds to Fig. 4. I prepared these drawings prior to January 22, 1997. The specific date appearing on the drawings has been blocked off in Exhibits A and B as permitted by MPEP 715.07.
- 4) According to my written records, on or about March 20, 1997, a fully functional test of the manufacturing system, as currently claimed in the instant application, was performed within the United States of America at my direction. Based upon my

S.N. 09/643,389
Art Unit 2125
Atty Dkt 10970997-3
Declaration of Kevin K. Funk

observation of the test, I was confident that the manufacturing system would work for its intended purpose.

- 5) During a period from prior to January 22, 1997, to about March 20, 1997, I diligently worked toward the planning, manufacture and installation of the manufacturing system that was tested on or about March 20, 1997.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Kevin K. Funk July 9, 2002
Kevin K. Funk